

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A facsimile machine having an input/output interface, a storage device, a printing section, and a display unit, said facsimile machine being provided with a variety of functions;

a personal computer connected to said input/output interface of said facsimile machine, said personal computer having a data storage device storing help list data regarding how to set and how to use the variety of functions of the facsimile machine, a printing section, and a display unit, said personal computer generating a help list based on the help list data when requested by a user; and

a help key through which the user inputs a command for requesting the help list data.

2. The facsimile system according to claim 1, wherein the help list generated by the personal computer is printed out by said printing section of said facsimile machine.

3. The facsimile system according to claim 1, wherein the help list generated by the personal computer is displayed on said display unit of said facsimile machine.

4. The facsimile system according to claim 1, wherein the help list is printed out by said printing section of said personal computer.

5. The facsimile system according to claim 1, wherein the help list is displayed on said display unit of said personal computer to indicate the help list thereon.

6. The facsimile system according to claim 1, wherein basic help list data is stored in said storage device of the facsimile machine and a basic help list is printed out by said printing section of said facsimile machine when said facsimile machine and said personal computer are disconnected from each other.

7. The facsimile system according to claim 1, wherein basic help list data is stored in said storage device and a basic help list is generated by said display unit of said

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facsimile machine to indicate the basic help list when said facsimile machine and said personal computer are not connected to each other.

8. A printing system comprising:

a printer having an input/output interface, a storage device, a printing section, and a display unit, said printer being provided with a variety of functions;

a personal computer connected to said input/output interface of said printer, said personal computer having a data storage device storing help list data regarding how to set and how to use the variety of functions of the printer, a printing section, and a display unit, said personal computer generating a help list based on the help list data when requested by a user; and

a help key through which the user inputs a command for requesting the help list data.

9. The printing system according to claim 8, wherein the help list generated by the personal computer is printed out by said printing section of said printer.

10. The printing system according to claim 8, wherein the help list generated by the personal computer is displayed on said display unit of said printer.

11. The printing system according to claim 8, wherein the help list is printed out by said printing section of said personal computer.

12. The printing system according to claim 8, wherein the help list is displayed on said display unit of said personal computer to indicate the help list thereon.

13. The printing system according to claim 8, wherein basic help list data is stored in said storage device of the printer and a basic help list is printed out by said printing section of said printer when said printer and said personal computer are disconnected from each other.

14. The printing system according to claim 8, wherein basic help list data is stored in said storage device and a basic help list is generated by said display unit of said printer to

indicate the basic help list when said printer and said personal computer are not connected to each other.

15. A peripheral device having at least one function, the peripheral device being capable of connecting with a host device having a data storage device storing help list data regarding how to set and how to use the at least one function of the peripheral device, the peripheral device comprising:

an input/output interface connected to the host device;

a help key through which a user inputs a command for requesting the help list;

a read unit that reads out the help list data stored in the data storage device of the host device via the input/output interface when requested by operating the help key by the user;
and

a display unit that shows a help list based on the help list data transmitted from the host device via the input/output interface.

16. The peripheral device according to claim 15, wherein the display unit includes a printer that prints out the help list on a recording medium.

17. The peripheral device according to claim 15, wherein the display unit includes a display device that visually displays the help list thereon.

18. The peripheral device according to claim 15, further comprising a storage device that stores a basic help list data, wherein the display unit shows the basic help list when the peripheral device and the host device are disconnected from each other upon when requested by the user operating the help key.

19. A host device capable of connecting with a peripheral device having at least one function and a help key through which a user inputs a command for requesting the help list, the host device comprising:

an input/output interface connected to the peripheral device;

a data storage device storing help list data regarding how to set and how to use the at least one function of the peripheral device;

a read unit that reads out the help list data stored in the data storage device when requested by operating the help key by the user; and

a display unit that shows a help list based on the help list data read from the data storage device.

20. The host device according to claim 19, wherein the display unit includes a printer that prints out the help list on a recording medium.

21. The host device according to claim 19, where in the display unit includes a display device that visually displays the help thereon.